



POLICE CONFERENCE of New York, Inc.
Union of Police Officers

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April 29, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Support for the Consensus Plan for 800 MHz Realignment
Ex Parte, WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Ms. Dortch,

The Police Conference of New York, Inc., is a highly regarded statewide organization that represents the interests of 230 police associations, 8 regional conferences and one retired police association, with a total membership of over 25,000. Our concern is that many of our members are with departments that operate an 800 MHz trunked radio system, we are actively following this vital proceeding for public safety and request our views be considered. This system provides critical public safety communications for police, fire and emergency personnel.

First responders in New York and across the Nation are increasingly, at risk because their public safety radio communications are vulnerable to interference from cellular phone. As the usage of cellular phones increases, the risk of garbled or blocked police, fire and other public safety communications increases.

The Federal Communications Commission has before it a "Consensus Plan" that would address cellular/public safety radio interference problems and provide more of the spectrum that first responders urgently need for radio communications. We support the Consensus Plan along with the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc.; the International Association of Fire Chiefs of Police, the Major Cities Chiefs Association; the Major County Sheriffs' Association and the National Sheriffs' Association.

The Consensus Plan offers the only real, near-term solution to existing public safety radio problems. The Plan provides a comprehensive solution that addresses interference to public safety systems, allocates additional spectrum for public safety needs, provides private funding to compensate licensees that may need to relocate to new channels as the result of the Plan, and ensures that all affected licensees receive equivalent replacement spectrum as part of the spectrum swaps called for by the Consensus Plan.

On behalf of the members of the Police Conference, we urge the FCC to resolve the issues facing the safety of the public community and adopt in full the terms of the Consensus Plan.

Sincerely,



Edward W. Guzdek, President

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